

TOP SECRET

22 May 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF, FE/PM

SUBJECT : Comments on PSB-D-23

25X1A

1. [] of this Division has studied subject paper and has made the following comments:

a. The basic premise of subject paper is closely analogous to our memorandum dated 1 May 1953 (Subject: The Political Significance of the Invasion of Laos by the Viet Minh Forces). One of the strongest elements in anti-Communist propaganda among Southeast Asians may be to alert them to the dangers of Chinese imperialism which would be disclosed by the establishment of a Shan or Thai "Peoples Republic" united with the Communist world. The historical facts of Southeast Asia's servitude to China would spell out this danger in simplest terms. The present situation portends an even greater danger because Chinese Communism is, in fact, an instrument of the Kremlin.

b. It is agreed that Thailand should be considered a center of resistance to Communism in Southeast Asia. The United States must be in the background as a friend of these people. Meanwhile Indian friendship and sympathy should be sought in an endeavor to foster regional resistance to the Communist bloc.

c. Several individuals are available who have had OSS experience in the area. They are known to have been outstanding operatives. Several of them even learned the language of the Kachins and other ethnic groups. A selected few such operatives would suffice to support the moral leadership of the United States in organizational work in Thailand, both on the government level and among the guerrillas.

SIGNED

25X1A

[]
Special Assistant to the Chief
Political and Psychological Warfare Staff

25X1A

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